

REMARKS

This application was initially filed with 72 claims. By Preliminary Amendment filed May 29, 2002, claims 1-10, 21-22, 37-46 and 57-58 were cancelled, leaving claims 11-20, 23-36, 47-56 and 57-72 pending in the application. In the Office Action mailed September 27, 2004, the Examiner erroneously reported that claim 11 was among the claims that had been cancelled. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to correct this obviously inadvertent error and to consider claim 11 along with the other claims pending in the application.

In the September 27, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 12-20, 23-36 and 52-56. The Examiner rejected claims 47-50, 59-61, 65-68 and 72 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,764,731 to Yablon. The Examiner also rejected claims 11, 51, 62-64 and 69-71 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yablon in view U.S. Patent No 5,655,025 to Walsh et al. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of an interview on November 22, 2004, including the opportunity to discuss features of the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendment after final rejection, because it places the application in condition for allowance, and better form for consideration on appeal.

In light of that discussion, the Applicant submits this amendment to the pending claims in order to clarify the claimed invention and the distinctions between the claimed invention and the cited references. Applicant is amending the allowed claims for the purpose of consistency among the claims, and the amendment to those claims should not be understood to suggest that the Applicant believes that the allowed claims would not be allowable in the absence of this amendment.

Each of the independent claims has been amended so that a list of telephone numbers is produced responsive to, among other things, dialing rules for formulating telephone numbers for use in making telephone calls from one of a multiplicity of geographic locations to another of the multiplicity of geographic locations. Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification, for example at page 15, lines 9-10; page 21, lines 1-6; and page 25, lines 3-8. Applicant submits that neither Yablon nor Walsh, alone or in combination, fairly teaches or suggests the generation of telephone numbers in response to dialing rules for formulating telephone numbers for use in making calls from any of a multiplicity of geographic locations to another of the multiplicity of geographic locations.

Accordingly, each of the pending independent claims (claims 11, 16, 23, 30, 47, 48, 49, 52, 59 and 66) is thus allowable, and that each of the pending dependent claims (12-15, 18-20, 24-29, 31-36, 50-51, 54-56, 60-65 and 67-72) is also allowable because it depends from an allowable independent claim.

CONCLUSION

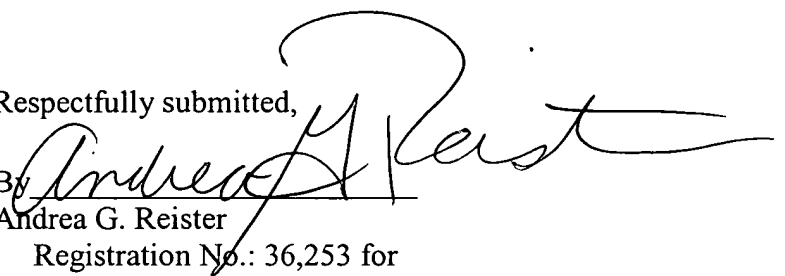
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant further believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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